

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



EXPLORE SCIENCE

Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR)

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October 2022

International Cooperation Overview for HE22 SMEX

The goal of this briefing is to:

- Provide a brief introduction to international cooperation at NASA
- Provide a brief overview of guidelines for international cooperation
- Introduce the purpose of International Agreements, some basic requirements, and the relation of International Agreements to the AO process



A space-themed background featuring a curved blue arc on the left side. Inside and around this arc are various celestial bodies: a yellow planet with rings (Saturn), a reddish planet (Mars), a grey cratered planet (the Moon), and a blue and white planet (Earth) at the bottom left. The background is a deep blue with scattered white stars and a bright yellow sun or star in the bottom left corner.

Overview of International Cooperation at NASA

- International cooperation at NASA is:
 - Part of NASA's foundational legislation
 - Since 1958, NASA has concluded over 6000 agreements with over 150 nations and international organizations
 - Actively operating in every region in the world
- NASA's international Partners:
 - Are generally government agencies due to the significant level of investment and legal requirements for scientific cooperation
 - ~20% of recent new activities were with first-time Partners
 - Fund their contributions
 - Each Partners' respective contributions need not be equivalent
 - Exchange of funds is not permitted in cooperative activities

The background of the slide features a deep blue space scene. On the left side, there is a large, curved blue arc that sweeps from the top left towards the bottom. Within this arc and the surrounding space, several celestial bodies are visible: a yellow planet with a ring system (resembling Saturn) at the top, a reddish-brown planet (resembling Mars) below it, and a grey, cratered planet (resembling the Moon) further down. The bottom left corner shows a portion of the Earth's blue and white horizon. The overall lighting is soft, with some distant star-like points of light.


Overall Guidelines for NASA's International Cooperation

- Projects/Partnerships generally must:
 - Have scientific and technical merit and be mutually beneficial
 - Be based on non-exchange of funds
 - Make scientific results available to the general scientific community as soon as possible
 - Establish clearly defined managerial and technical interfaces to minimize complexity
 - Be structured to protect against unwarranted technology transfer
 - Be documented in a written, binding agreement, closely coordinated with the U.S. Department of State and other U.S. government agencies
- Cooperation must also be consistent with the foreign policy objectives of each Partner

The background of the slide features a vibrant space scene. On the left, a bright yellow sun is partially visible, casting a glow over a blue and white Earth. Several celestial bodies are scattered across the dark blue space, including a reddish-brown planet, a yellow planet with a ring system, and a grey, cratered moon. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and global.


What International Agreements Accomplish

- International agreements are tools that:
 - Clarify responsibilities of the partners
 - Confirm commitments and terms
 - Document the exchange and benefits of the cooperation for each partner
 - Protect investment and interests, such as:
 - Technical data rights
 - Intellectual property rights
 - Allocation of risk and cross-waiver of liability
 - Allow import/export of technical data and goods
 - Confirm arrangements to meet international obligations, such as UN Registration Convention, as needed

A space-themed background featuring a curved view of Earth's horizon at the bottom left, with a bright sun or star partially visible. Above the horizon, several celestial bodies are shown: a crescent moon, a reddish planet (Mars), and a yellow planet with rings (Saturn). The background is a deep blue with scattered white stars.

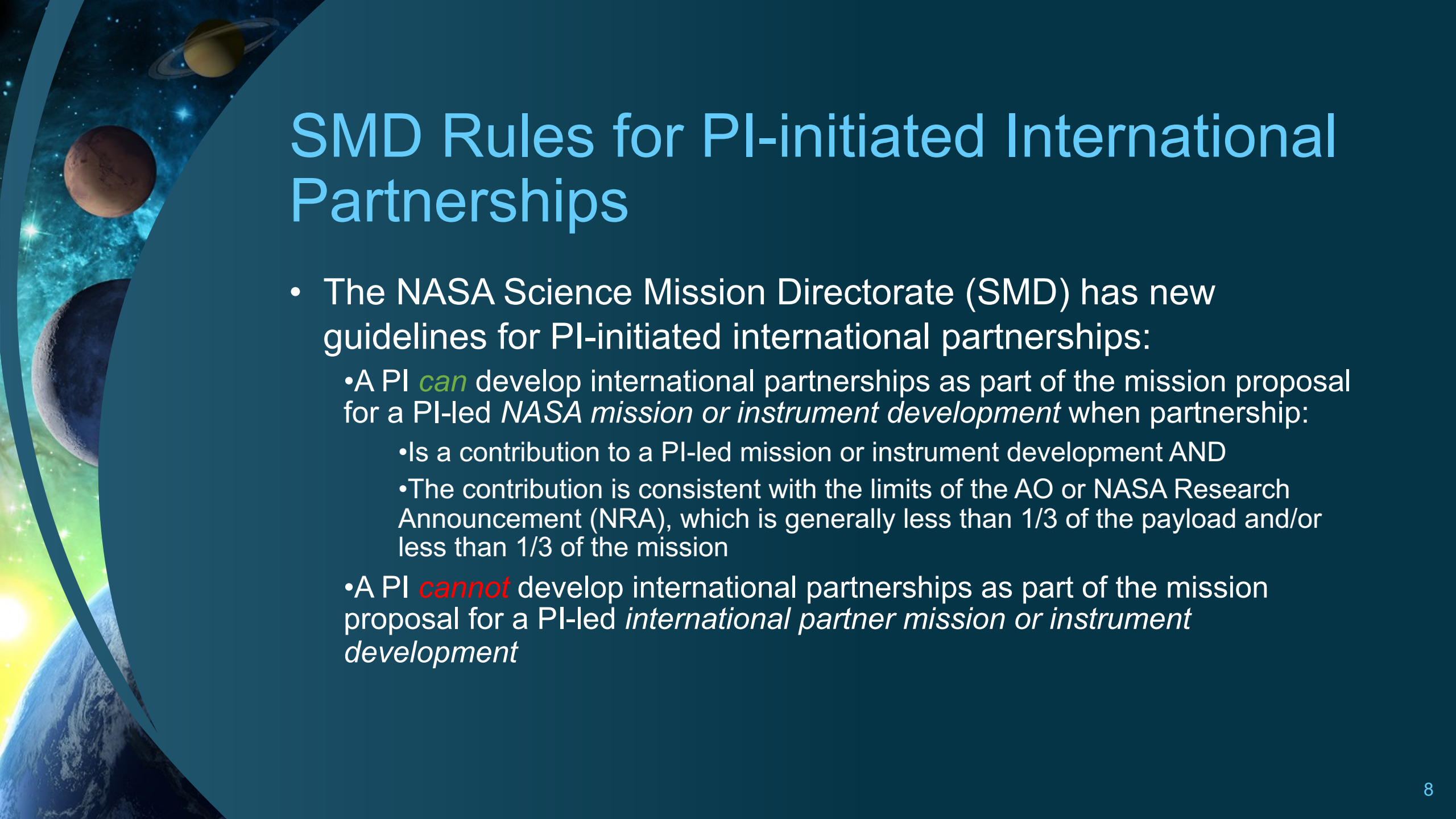
Getting Started on International Agreements

- International agreements are:
 - Drafted *after* final selection are made
 - Not typically drafted for Phase-A Studies
 - Not required for proposals or Concept Study Reports
- The NASA Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR) conducts the international agreement process
 - International agreements can take several months to over a year!
- Need Date: Program Design Review OR No later than Key Decision Point-C.

The background of the slide is a dark blue space-themed image. On the left side, there is a vertical strip showing a bright yellow sun at the bottom, followed by the blue and white horizon of Earth, a grey cratered moon, a reddish-brown planet (Mars), and a yellow planet with a ring (Saturn) at the top. The rest of the slide has a solid dark blue background.

Other Requirements Regarding International Participation

- Non-U.S. Participation Requirements are detailed in the Announcement of Opportunity (AO)
- For foreign participation, a Letter of Commitment is needed from the foreign partner's government agency or funding institution acknowledging the activity and preferably indicating sufficient funds will be made available

The background of the slide features a deep blue space theme. On the left side, there is a vertical strip showing a bright yellow sun at the bottom, followed by the blue and white horizon of Earth. Above Earth, the dark, cratered surface of the Moon is visible. Further up, a reddish-brown planet (Mars) and a yellow planet with a prominent ring system (Saturn) are depicted against a backdrop of stars and nebulae. A large, semi-transparent dark blue circle is positioned on the right side of the slide, partially overlapping the text area.


SMD Rules for PI-initiated International Partnerships

- The NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) has new guidelines for PI-initiated international partnerships:
 - A PI *can* develop international partnerships as part of the mission proposal for a PI-led *NASA mission or instrument development* when partnership:
 - Is a contribution to a PI-led mission or instrument development AND
 - The contribution is consistent with the limits of the AO or NASA Research Announcement (NRA), which is generally less than 1/3 of the payload and/or less than 1/3 of the mission
 - A PI *cannot* develop international partnerships as part of the mission proposal for a PI-led *international partner mission or instrument development*

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Export Controls Rule

- NASA's International agreements do **NOT** trump export control laws and regulations
- An International agreement does not replace a contractor's need for a Technical Assistance Agreement

A space-themed background featuring a curved view of Earth's horizon at the bottom left, with a bright sun or star partially visible. Above the horizon, several celestial bodies are shown: a crescent moon, a reddish planet (Mars), and a yellow planet with rings (Saturn). The background is a deep blue with scattered white stars and a nebula-like glow.

Post Selection: Advice for Getting Started

You've been selected. Now what? A preview of the next steps for the international agreement:

- Get in touch with the NASA Headquarters Program Scientist and/or Program Executive; include in conversations international contributions
- Provide the Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR) with (#1) any Letters of Commitment from international partners
- OIIR will assist in determining if an international agreement is needed. If so:
 - Provide (#2) a couple-paragraph program description and (#3) the list of responsibilities for the U.S. side and the international partner side for each participating country. Templates are available, and OIIR will assist.
- Start at no later than KDP-C minus one year.
- OIIR will lead the agreement process from there.

Questions?

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The background of the slide is a composite of two cosmic images. The top half features a dark blue and black space scene with a bright blue nebula on the right and several stars with diffraction spikes. The bottom half shows a vibrant orange and yellow nebula on the left, transitioning into a greenish-blue area on the right, also filled with stars. A solid dark blue horizontal band runs across the middle, containing the text.

Thank You and Good Luck!